FD-36 (Rev. 3-24-77)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:
- [ ] Teletype
- [ ] Facsimile
- [X] AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:
- [ ] Immediate
- [ ] Priority
- [ ] Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
- [ ] TOP SECRET
- [ ] SECRET
- [ ] CONFIDENTIAL
- [ ] E F T O
- [ ] CLEAR

Date 11/9/78

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117290)
(ATTN: UNIT CHIEF DANNY O. COULSON, ROOM 3658)

FROM SAC, ST. LOUIS (62-5097)

SUBJECT: ~~HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON~~
ASSASSINATIONS, U. S. HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SPECIAL AGENT WILLIAM R. DUNCAN
ST. LOUIS DIVISION

Re SL teletype to Bureau, 10/18/78, captioned "BANK ROBBERY MATTERS".

For the information of the Bureau, referenced teletype advised the Laddonia State Bank, Laddonia, Missouri, received a telephone call on or about 10/18/78 concerning the bank robbery it suffered 6/11/70. The caller identified himself as being with the FBI, Washington, D. C., and advised a survey was being conducted and asked what time the bank had been robbed in June, 1970. FBIHQ telephonically responded to that teletype advising that no such inquiry had been made from FBIHQ.

Additional inquiry after referenced St. Louis teletype indicated that it was a phone call from a member of the House Select Committee on Assassinations Staff to the employee of Laddonia State Bank asking what time the bank had been robbed.

REC-30 62-117290-1350

The Laddonia State Bank was robbed at approximately 1:15 p.m., on 6/11/70, by two white males wearing nylon stockings and what appeared to be bandaids under their eyes.

2 NOV 13 1978

Upon arriving at the bank, the MO and description of the gun used fit information previously received concerning JOHN

3 - Bureau
2 - St. Louis
WRD:edr/kam
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/30/86 BY

LEGAL COUNSEL

DOC. CLASS. REV.

61 DEC 29 1978

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) (Time) Per _____ FBI/DOJ

LARRY RAY and his brother, JERRY WILLIAM RAY, who were suspects in robberies of the Farmers Bank of Liberty, Liberty, Ill., on 10/17/69 and Farmers and Traders Bank of Meredosia, Meredosia, Ill., on 1/28/70. Photos of the group of RAY associates were brought to the bank by Agents from St. Louis and witnesses from outside the bank the day before the robbery and witnesses involved in the robbery identified photographs of TURLEY and HAYNES. Federal process was obtained. HAYNES was arrested in St. Louis a day or so after the robbery and marked money from the robbery was recovered on his person. TURLEY was arrested in St. Louis a week or so later and no money was recovered. A showup was held at St. Louis PD for witnesses from all three robberies. There witnesses picked HAYNES as being the person who ran the bank robbery but were not as positive on TURLEY. One witness from the Meredosia bank robbery picked the photograph of TURLEY as being the tall bank robber and HAYNES as being the short bank robber.

Both subjects TURLEY and HAYNES were being tried in USDC, St. Louis, during November, 1970. During the trial HAYNES changed his plea from not guilty to guilty and testified for the government. He testified TURLEY was with him but he would not name the other participants until the judge directed him to. He named his associates as JOHN LARRY RAY, JAMES RUSSELL TURLEY, JAMES RUSSELL ROGERS, and ERNEST TURLEY. At the end of the trial TURLEY was acquitted.

Audrain County Sheriff HAROLD SULGROVE, now deceased, had state robbery warrants for both subjects with him. The warrants had been issued shortly after the bank robbery. After the acquittal of TURLEY he called Prosecuting Attorney THOMAS I. OSBORN at Mexico and asked him if he could bring TURLEY back for trial. OSBORN told him to bring him back but he would discuss the prosecution later.

TURLEY's lawyer called OSBORN and he also talked to AUSA KENNETH R. HEINEMAN who tried TURLEY in USDC and OSBORN decided that he would tell the defense attorney that if TURLEY would take a polygraph examination and pass he would not try TURLEY, however, if TURLEY would refuse to take the examination he would have to try him. OSBORN advised the defense attorney that with TURLEY's record and the eye witnesses he thought that he owed it to the state to

try TURLEY.

TURLEY appealed the fact that he was being tried after being acquitted in Federal court to the Missouri Court of Appeals, U. S. Court of Appeals, and the U. S. Supreme Court. The Court of Appeals denied his appeal and the Supreme Court would not hear the case. He was later ordered for trial on a change of venue in Warren County Circuit Court in Warrenton, Mo.

While out on bond and awaiting the court decisions Audrain County Sheriff SULGROVE was in one of the St. Louis City police precincts when TURLEY and his wife were brought in for some violation. His wife said "I lied for you one time but I'm not going to lie for you again." During the subsequent trial in Warren County Circuit Court SULGROVE remembered this and got the detective to testify who had this information.

TURLEY was tried, convicted and sentenced to 30 years in the state penitentiary. While awaiting transportation to the state penitentiary he escaped from the Warren County Jail and was later apprehended on a UFAP warrant in Florida by FBI Agents.

On 11/7/78 former Prosecuting Attorney THOMAS I. OSBORN, Mexico, Mo., advised that he got a telephone call from a reporter, BILL FREIGOVEL of the St. Louis Post Dispatch newspaper, saying he was doing a story on the bank robbery at Laddonia in 1970. He advised that the House Select Committee on Assassinations investigators had information from [redacted] that ERNEST TURLEY was not involved in the robbery. OSBORN was asked a number of questions about the case and including why witnesses, when interviewed by SA [redacted] Resident Agent handling the investigation, were not too positive of an identification but when they went to trial their identification was very positive. He also wanted to know if [redacted] called OSBORN after TURLEY's acquittal in St. Louis and requested that he be brought back for state prosecution. He also asked if it was not [redacted] who pushed the state prosecution.

b7C
b7D
b7C

OSBORN told the reporter that the warrants for TURLEY and HAYNES were outstanding since June, 1970, shortly after the bank robbery and that Sheriff HAROLD SULGROVE called him and told him he was bringing TURLEY back on the warrant and that [redacted] did not push TURLEY's investigation and did not push for his trial in state court. OSBORN said that he thought that the witnesses probably were not too positive at the time of the bank robbery since the subjects had on nylon stockings, but after seeing them in person were positive. He asked the reporter if he had seen the good showup photograph that was taken both with the nylon stockings and without and the reporter advised that he had not. b7C

OSBORN was asked by the reporter what he thought about the House Select Committee on Assassinations petition to the Governor of Missouri for a pardon for TURLEY. He responded that he had not heard of any pardon motion.

[redacted] b7C b7

[redacted]

Both OSBORN and [redacted] said that the reporter was allegedly reading from the court transcript of the trial. b7C

For information of the Bureau, SA [redacted]

Further it is to be noted that the St. Louis Division presently has a Federal parole violator warrant for CLARENCE EDGAR HAYNES.

The above is being furnished to the Bureau for information purposes.

The St. Louis file on the Laddonia bank robbery has been destroyed under the Bureau's file destruction policy and is therefore not available.

~~Operative~~

HSCA-1

Note that there has been no ref. to identifying police inf. may or to proof of intruders in that evidence

condition missing